



**STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF ELECTIONS**

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SCOTT T. NAGO
CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER

TESTIMONY OF THE
CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER, OFFICE OF ELECTIONS
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
ON HOUSE BILL NO. 408
RELATING TO VOTER REGISTRATION

March 11, 2025

Chair Rhoads and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill No. 408. This bill clarifies that the deadline to register to vote has been changed from 30 to 10 days prior to a primary or general election and repeals obsolete language regarding permanent absentee ballots.

In 2021, the deadline for the closing of the voter registration rolls was extended from the 30th day before an election to the 10th day in HRS § 11-24. Act 213, SLH 2021. However, the corresponding provisions in HRS §§ 11-16 and 15D-6(b) making it explicitly clear that the deadline for voter registration applications submitted by mail was likewise moved to the 10th day were not amended. This bill seeks to clarify that the voter registration deadline by mail is the 10th day prior to an election.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill No. 408.



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB408, RELATING TO VOTER REGISTRATION

SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

March 11, 2025

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Judiciary Committee:

The Democratic Party of Hawai'i **SUPPORTS** HB408, RELATING TO VOTER REGISTRATION. Pursuant to the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, the Party supports policies that safeguard the accessibility, inclusivity, and integrity of our electoral process.

By extending the voter registration deadline from 30 days to 10 days before a primary or general election, this bill ensures that more citizens have the opportunity to participate in our electoral process, thereby enhancing the accessibility and inclusivity of our democracy.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify in support of HB408, RELATING TO VOTER REGISTRATION. Should you have any questions or require further information, please contact the Democratic Party of Hawai'i at legislation@hawaiidemocrats.org.



Senate Committee on Judiciary
Chair Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair Mike Gabbard

Mar. 11, 2025, 9:45 a.m., Rm. 016
HB 408 — Relating to Voter Registration
TESTIMONY

Amy Monk, Legislative Committee, League of Women Voters of Hawaii

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Committee Members:

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii supports HB 408

The League of Women Voters (LWV) is a nonpartisan, grassroots organization working to protect and expand voting rights.

The LWV **supports** HB 408 which updates obsolete language in the law. Since moving the deadline to register to vote by mail from 30 to 10 days prior to a primary or general election has been in effect, we support correction of this and other sections of the law that are now outdated.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

HB-408

Submitted on: 3/8/2025 10:49:04 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/11/2025 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marcia Kemble	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Greetings Committee Chair and Committee Members,

I am writing in **STRONG** support of HB408, which extends the mail-in voter registration deadline to 10 days before the election. By allowing more time to register, it will ensure that more people have the opportunity to participate in the democratic process.

Mahalo,
Marcia Kemble

HB-408

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 3:45:58 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/11/2025 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jodi Robinson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill to improve voter registration and help to ensure that every resident has an opportunity to vote. Mahalo.

HB-408

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 12:06:21 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/11/2025 9:45:00 AM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Olderr	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill because it would make voting in this state more accessible and likely to encourage voter engagement.

LATE

HB-408

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 6:17:08 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/11/2025 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Frank Schultz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this initiative.